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FM USMISSION USOSCE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6352
INFO RUCNOSC/ORG FOR SECURITY CO OP IN EUR COLLECTIVE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RHMFISS/CDR USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
RUEASWA/DTRA ALEX WASHINGTON DC
RUESDT/DTRA-OSES DARMSTADT GE
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS USOSCE 000105

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR VCI/CCA, VCI/NRRC, EUR/RPM, EUR/PRA
JCS FOR J-5
OSD FOR ISA (PERENYI)
NSC FOR HAYES
EUCOM FOR J-5

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PARM PREL KCFE OSCE

SUBJECT: OPEN SKIES APRIL 27: BIH CHAIRMANSHIP BEGINS
QUIETLY

¶1. (SBU) Summary: Bosnia and Herzegovina began its chairmanship of the Open Skies Consultative Commission with the first plenary meeting of the spring 2009 session on April 27. The chair of the Informal Working Group on Sensors reported progress on technical revisions to Decision 14. Russia reported on flights it conducted and received in March and April. Germany informally suggested the next quota and deconfliction meetings be held October 8-9. End summary.

¶2. (SBU) The first plenary meeting of the 49th session of the Open Skies Consultative Commission met on April 27. Delegations thanked outgoing chair Belgium and welcomed Bosnia and Herzegovina to the chairmanship. The U.S. (Neighbour) reminded delegations that as host of the 2010 review conference, it continues to solicit their advice on planning for the event.

¶3. (SBU) The U.S. also delivered a report to the plenary (OSCC49.JOUR/153 Annex) from the chairman of the Informal Working Group on Sensors, Scott Simmons, who noted progress on finalizing Revision One to Decision 14, as well as the discontinuation by Kodak of aerial wet film type 3404, another step in the expected evolution of technology away from film and toward digital imagery.

¶4. (SBU) Russia reported on five observation flights it recently conducted over:
- France March 23-28;
- Italy March 30) April 1;
- the UK April 6-10;
- Greece April 13-17; and
- Romania April 20-24.

¶5. (SBU) Russia also received observation flights over its territory from the following:
- U.S./Norway/Sweden March 23-27;
- Finland (using Bulgarian Air Force AN-30B) March 30) April 3; - U.S./France April 6-10;
- U.S. April 13-17; and
- Canada/Norway April 20-24.

¶6. (SBU) Turkey reported hosting an observation flight by Sweden April 20-24. Finland thanked Russia for the outstanding support of its observation flight noted above.

Sweden confirmed its participation in observation flights over Turkey and Russia.

¶7. (SBU) Although it remains on the agenda, there was no discussion of accession of the Republic of Cyprus to the Treaty on Open Skies (OSCC.DD/12/02).

¶8. (SBU) On the margins, Germany (Ratzlaff) proposed to the U.S. holding the next quota distribution and deconfliction meetings October 8-9.

¶9. (U) The next meeting of the OSCC will be May 18 under the chairmanship of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

SCOTT